

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Kirti DAVE, et al.

Serial No.:

09/505,898

Filing Date:

February 17, 2000

For:

RAPID ASSAY FOR ARTHROPOD-

BORNE DISEASE VECTORS AND

PATHOGENS

Examiner: U. Winkler

Group Art Unit: 1648

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the amendments introduced herein and consider the following remarks, both of which respond to the Final Office Action mailed April 8, 2002, in the parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/505,898. Therein, claims 43-47, 54-56 and 60-62 stood rejected. Claims 48-53 and 57-59 were withdrawn from consideration. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.